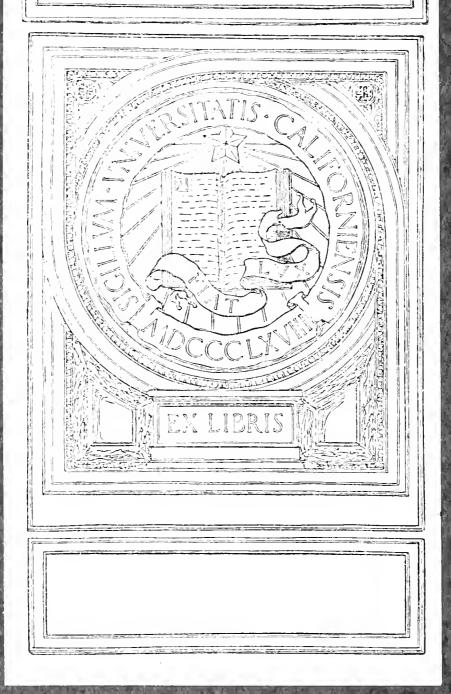
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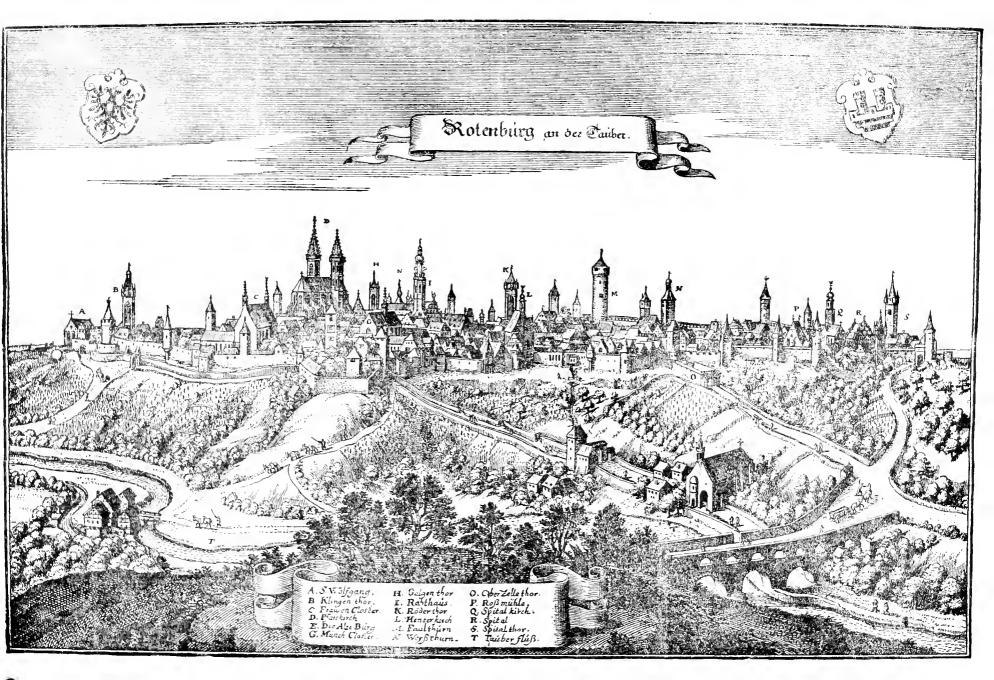


A Guide to the Town.

Published and printed by Rud. Albrecht 'Rothenburg o. Thr.







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A Guide

ROTHENBURG O.T.

by Rudolf Albrecht.

With Illustrations, a View, and a Plan of the Town.

Dr. Karl Wertheim, Professor of Modern Languages and Sworn Translator, Nürnberg.

Printed and puplished by Rud. Albrecht,

Rothenburg ob der Tauber.

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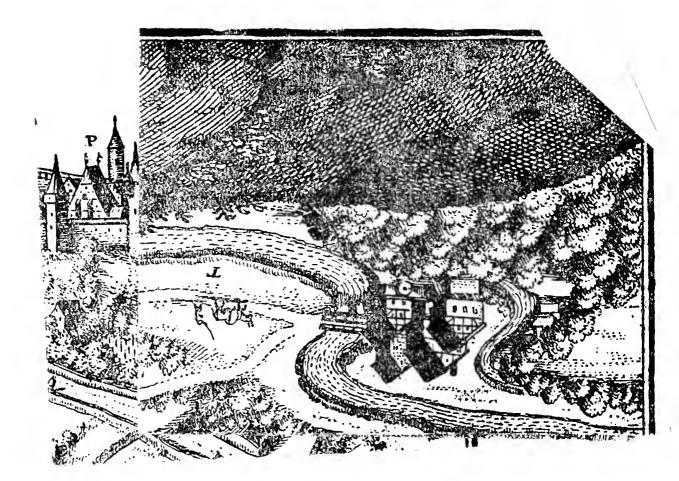


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A Guide

to

ROTHENBURG O.T.

by Rudolf Albrecht.

With Illustrations, a View, and a Plan of the Town.

Translated from the German by Dr. Karl Wertheim, Professor of Modern Languages and Sworn Translator, Nürnberg.

from the Station to the

Röderthor (Röder Gate)

Rödergasse (Röder Lane) with

Markusturm (St. Mark's Tower)

Marktplatz (Market Plaze)

Herterichbrunnen (Herterich's Fountain)

Marienapotheke (Dispensing Chemist's Shop)

Fleisch=formerly Tanzhaus (Meat=house, formerly Dance=house)

Rathaus (Town Hall)

Kapellenplatz (Chapel Place)

Schrag=Patrizierhaus (Schrag's Mansion)

Weisser Turm (White Tower)

Gymnasium (Grammar School)

Messnerhäuschen (Sacristan's Cottage)

Jakobskirche (St. James's Church)

Blutkapelle (Chapel of the Holy Blood)

Franziskanerkirche (Church of the Franciscans)

Burgthor (Castle Gate)

Former Bettelvogtswohnung (House of the Beadle) with Torture Chamber

Burggarten (Castle Garden)

Klingenbastei (Klingen Bastion)

St. Wolfgangskirche (St. Wolfgang's Church)

Strafturm (Prison Tower)

Klingenturm (Klingen Tower) Dominikanerkloster (Dominican Nunnery) Marktplatz (Market Place) Schmiedgasse (Smith Lane) Baumeisterhaus (Architect's House) Topplerhaus St. Johanniskirche (St. John's Church) Johanniterhof Plönlein Koboldzellertor (Kobolzell Gate) Stoeberleinsturm Wildbad **Spitaltor** Hospital=Gebäude (Hospital) Hegereiterhaus Hospitalkirche (Hospital Church) Rossmühle (Horse Mill) Siebersturm Spitalstrasse, or

Schmiedgasse.

The year was



Rothenburg o. Tbr.,

the old East Franconian stronghold, the residence of Salian dynasts and of the Hohenstaufen — up to 1802 a free Town of the Empire — is very picture squely situated on the margin of a shell-limestone plateau descending about 200 feet to the deep valley of the Tauber. This river, which has its source about $3\frac{1}{2}$ hours to the South, flows through the Taubergrund (valley of the T.), and empties into the Main near Wertheim.

Rothenburg has a population of about 9000, mostly Protestants.

The mills and bakeries of the town enjoyed a good reputation at all times, and there was a proverb

In Rothenburg uff der Tauber

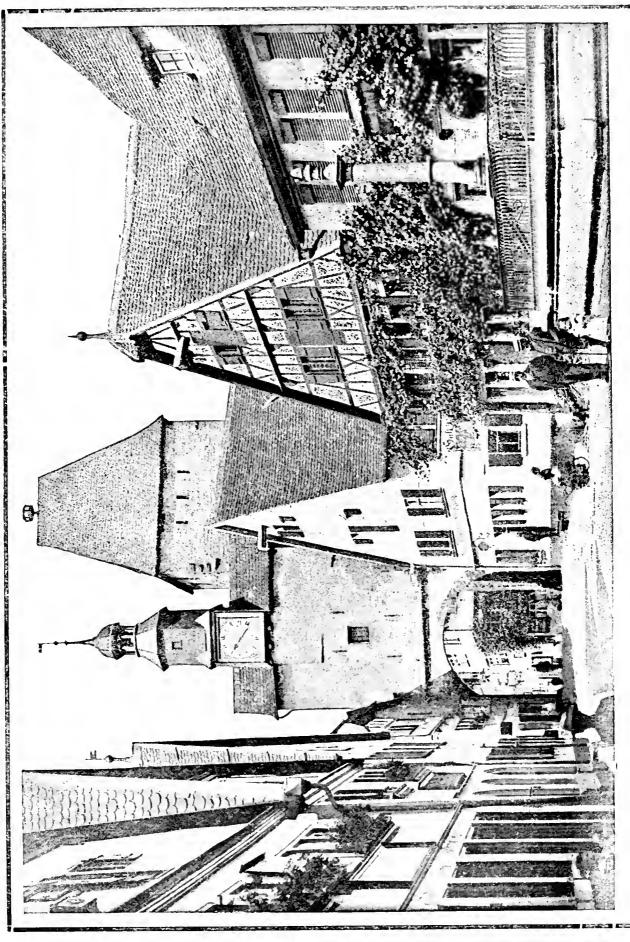
Ist das Mühl= und Beckenwerk sauber.

(In Rothenburg on the Tauber

Mills and Bakeries are in good order).

The name of Rothenburg has been said to mean "rothe Burg" (red castle) or "Burg innerhalb der Waldungen", (castle within the woodlands).







If we wish to narrate the history of the town, we must begin with that of the former castle, for this no doubt, stood first, and, as elsewhere, the inhabitants may have settled round the fastness.

Tradition will have it that the Duke of the Franconians, Pharamund, built the strong. "Phara=mundsturm" (Pharamund Tower), on the west end of the plateau, which was not broken off till the be=ginning of the 19. century. The remains of the wall show that the castle was of considerable ex=tent. It was separated from the ground behind by a moat, and formed at the same time an asylum for the neighbouring country people. As the seat of the burggraves of Rothenburg, it is for the first time mentioned in a document of the year 804.

The castle was divided into the Hinterburg (Back Castle) with the above-mentioned Pharamund Tower. As the proprietors of this Hinterburg appear since 1144, the Nordenbergers, who became later on the "Kitchen Masters" of the Holy Roman Empire. The principal entrance of the Hinterburg was certainly on the south side of the projecting hill, for a walled-up gate is still to be seen hidden behind the trees of a garden. — The fundation-walls of the Thorbau (South) were covered, in the sixteenth century, by the Shooting House of the Steel-bow Archers. The town that was to come was faced by the Vorderburg (Front Castle), also called

Reichsfeste (Imperial Castle). The so=called "hohe Haus der Herzöge" (high House of the Dukes), which still exists, is the only remaining building of this part of the Castle. Its most interesting sights are Romanesque window=bays and a pearl=frieze (south side), as well as a Gothic Madonna with Child (west side.)

To the right of the high House at the north corner of the castle was the site of the imperial Landgericht (Court of Iustice). At first the sittings of the lay assessors presided over by an imperial Landvogt were held here in the open air, later on under a stone dais.

In the power of attorney which the Emperor Ludwig gave to the Reichsschultheiss Durwang, this functionary was called upon "to judge according to the law every hurtfull man."

This building was pulled down in 1808.

After the land, once the property of the Thueringians, had been conquered by the Franks, the counts of Rothenburg that appear first are the Holy Gumpertus about 786, then Rudolf, Mengingaud, Arno. They were rulers over several districts, as Rothenburg had already become an important centre. Duke Conrad the Red resided in the Rothenburg Castle up to his proclamation as German King (911). There is documentary evidence up to 1108 that members of the Salian dynasty called themselves after Rothenburg. In the lists of the Bishops of Würzburg we find the following Counts of Rothenburg: Mengingaud, 752—785, Gottwale,

Wall by Klingentor



841-855, Rudolph I, 892-908, Theodo, 908-932, Burkhard II, 932-941, Hugo, 984-989, Bernhard, 989-955, Heinrich 1, 995-1018, Menginhard I, 1018-1033, Menginhard II, 1085-1088, Aynhard, 1088-1104.

After the death of the last Salian Count, Heinrich (1108), the succession passed to the kindred Hohenstaufen. Duke Friedrich, called the Rothensburger, or the Rich, kept a splendid court at Rothensburg. He died of the plague, in a campaign against Italy, which was led by the Emperor Barbarossa.

Then the administration of the Castle came into the hands of imperial burggraves. The first imperial burggrave who resided here was proved by documents — in the year 1172 Arnold, a son of the Emperor Friedrich I. He was succeeded in 1182 by his son, who styled himself Conradus Dapifer de Rothenburg. The third was Count of Limpurg, Gualtherus; the fourth, who in a document of 1280 is called Reichschultheiß, was Knight Herr= mann of Hornburg, a stepbrother of the Küchen= meister (Master of the Kitchen) Leupold of Norden= berg; the fifth was Leupold of Wailtingen, who died His successors were: a Count of Hohenlohe, 1292. then (1315) Friedrich of Drüdingen, etc., till at last in 1383 Lupold and Hanns of Nordenberg sold their fastness, called the Hinterburg, together with the vineyard situate below Coboldzeller Steig to te Corporation.

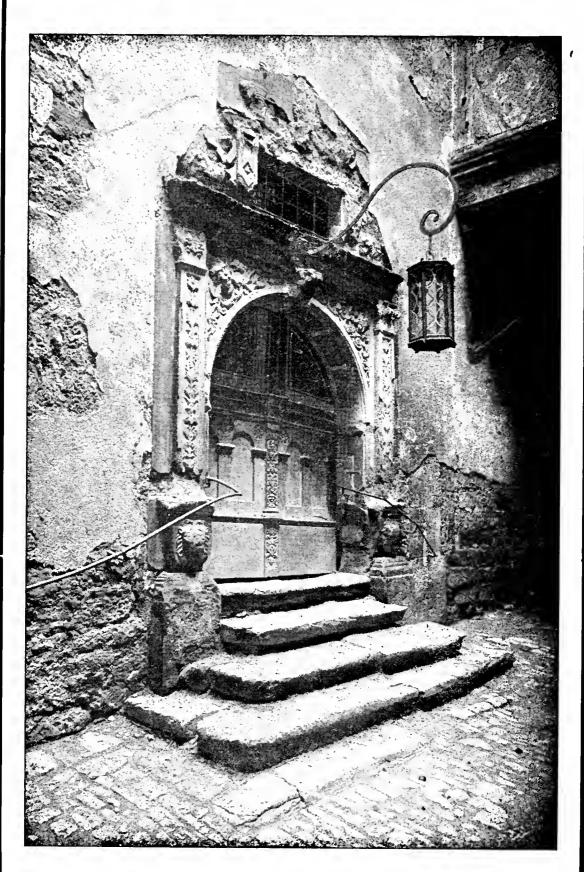
By this act the town came into the possession of the castle, but none the less the Imperial Town had to submit to the judicial administration of im=

perial landrichters till the year 1409. Seven houses in the present Burggasse are said to form the first beginning of the town in the shadow of the castle. Later on, especially under the Hohenstaufen, Franconian nobles, Such as the Hohenlohes, Seckendorfs, Gebsattels, etc., settled here, and so the town gradually extended along the border of the valley. The Emperor Barbarossa granted it a charter of incorporation. The oldest town had its boundaries from the Burgtor (Castle Gate) to the Johanniskirche (St. John's Church), along the old town-moat to the Büttelhaus (Beadle's House) near the Markusturm (St. Mark's Tower), then to the former

Deutsche Haus in the Klinggasse, Klosterweth and

back again to the Burgtor.

In the centre stood the oldest Town Hall, whose fundation=walls still carry the building of the so= called Gewerbehalle (Industrial Hall), behind the Herterichbrunnen (Herterich fountain). It was co= sumed by fire in 1240. To the nord-west of it stood the oldest parochial church. It dates from the time of the dukes, and was dedicated to St. Kilian. Nothing remains of it. Within the town there was room foor traffic, as, for instance in the cattle market (to day Herrengasse), wood market (the present Schmiedgasse), green market, etc. On these spots stood the former mansions of the patricians. A number of them are still preserved, and, by their extent, bear witness to the waste of space of former noblemen's seats. A striking contrast formed the cottages of the artisans, as we see them still in the



Rathaus=Portal

Hölle (Burggasse), Küblergässchen, old Stadtgraben (town moat), etc. When, in 1204, the town was for the first time extended, the Moat was filled up, and houses were erected alongside the Stadtgraben, Pfei= fersgässchen. Pfarrgasseand Judengasse. Later on was built the street from the Johannitertor to the present Siebersturm, then those from the Röderbogen (Markusturm) tho te present Rödertor, from the Weisse Turm to the Würzburgertor, from the Klo= sterweth to the Klingentor. Up to the present day some alleys have preserved the names of those mechanics for whom they were destined, for in= stance Schmiedgasse (Smith lane), Hafengasse (Potter lane) etc. The extended town was also fortified later on by rampart and moat, but not by wall and towers; only the communications with the old town were strongly fortified.

The most important building of that time was the alte "Rathaus" (old town=hall), built in 1250. Part of this building is still extant, while the front part was destroyed by fire in 1501. On its spot arose in 1572—1578 the present Renaissance building.

The Jews quarter in the north=eastern part of the town was at first accessible only by a narrow alley near the Withe Tower.

The south end, with the hospital founded in 1280, the so=called Kappenzipfel (Cap's Corner), was not drawn within the reach of the town walls until the end of the fourteenth century. Thus the town at that time had already received its present shape and extent, for a third extension, which was planned

by Toppler, was not carried out because of the death of this mighty burgomaster.

The town has witnessed divers important events: in May 1377, the Diet, when King Wenzel was the quest of Burgomaster Toppler. In order to preserve what it had won, Rothenburg joined the Swabian Confederation of Towns, and not a year passed without its feud and quarrels, Its chief adversaries, the burggraves of Nuremberg and the bishops of Würzburg, were envious of the prominent position which the town had acquired under the great Later times also found brave warriors in the men of Rothenburg; even the country people received a military education and many strongholds of the robber=barons could not in the end withstand the storm of the Rothenburgers. After these ex= ternal struggles, the democratic element arose in Rothenburg; the guilds demanded and obtained, though only for a short time, a seat and vote in the government. About this time many patrician families emigrated, as, for instance, the Holzschuhers, Behaims, Löffelholzes. Most of them moved to Nuremberg On February 14, 1474, Emperor Frie= drich III, in the Marktplatz, invested King Christian of Denmark with Holstein, Stormarn und Ditmarsen.

But for Rothenburg the most important event of the sixteenth century was the revolt of the peasants on the Tauber. Dr. Karlsstadt set a great agitation on foot, aided by Alderman Menzingen and others, and on March 27, 1525, the Outer Council was dissolved. People joined the "Evangelical Broth=



White Tower



erhood"; disorder and dissatisfaction increased; churches were broken open, the holy vessels were broken, pictures and figures of saints burned. Even the women were seized by the general frenzy; they penetrated, armed, into the houses of the priests, and carried away what they could lay hold on. The black band led by Geyer was drea= ded in the whole south. Bul dreadful was the end. The princes at last took heart again. A terrible fight ensued, in which the peasants could not hold their ground against the superior enemy; 4000 of their numbers fell in a single hour near Ingolstadt. After the unhappy battle of Tauber= Königshofen in June, 1525, Margrave Kasimir took possession of the town of Rothenburg, which he en= tered June 28. The thirtieth saw, in the Market= place, the spectacle of retribution. About sixty heads fell under the stroke of the executioner, and still today people tell with horror that the blood of the executed ran down the Schmiedgasse.

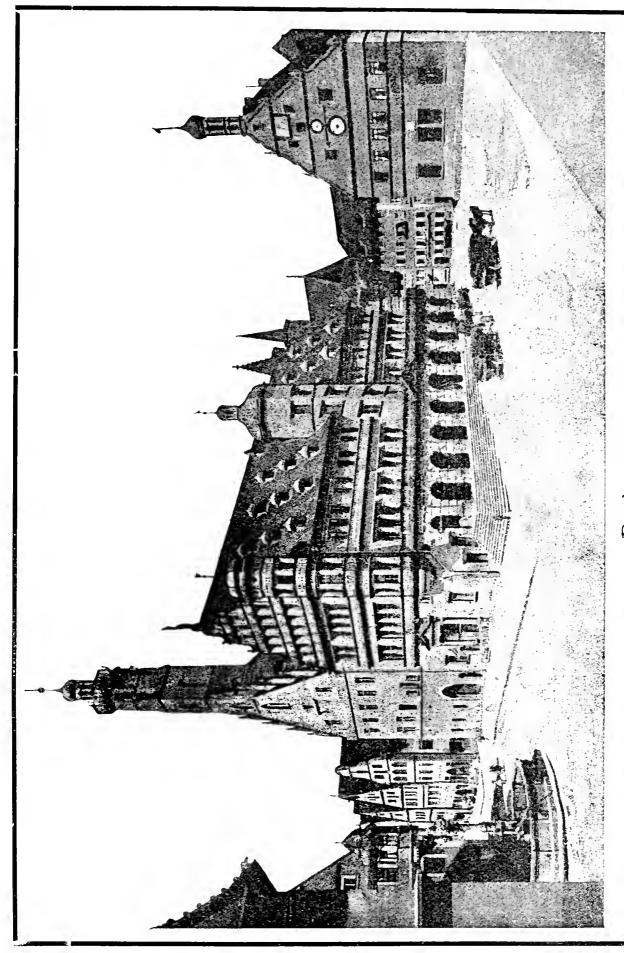
Citizens and peasants were disarmed, each house had to pay a contribution of seven florins. The patricians re entered the town hall.

After this terrible time, the Reformation was not joined until 1545.

Another and a heavier trial the town had to pass through in consequence of the Schmalkaldic War. In the month of December, 1546, Emperor Charles the Fifth, who considered himself victor over the Protestants, came to Rothenburg Murder and manslaughter were the order of the day.

The passages of the electors Johann Friedrich and Philip of Hesse with their whole armies, as well as the sojourn for several days of Emperor Char= les V, brought the horrors of the Thirty Years War upon the town, which was situadet on the line of Communication. There were passages of troops and occupations almost daily. For the sake of its evangelical faith Rothenburg joined the Union. About this time (the beginning of the Seventeenth century), it saw many princes within its walls. Neither did the town like to lose the favour of both Emperor and Empire, but this double=dealing could not be carried on long, for nobody can serve two masters. Every year brought wilder and more disorderly bands, extortions had no end, and fear= fully great were the sums which had to be levied for the masses of the enemy. Although the town had many Imperial charters, nobody carred for Among the citizens themselves, morality them. and order declined rapidly. None the less the faith= fulness and steatiness with which the citizens clung to their religion, is greadly to be admired.

Forsaken and betrayed by everybody, the town could expect help from only one source. — Gusta= vus Adolphus and his Swedes. In this expectation they were not dissappointed. Like other towns, Rothenburg gave its adhesion to the Leipzig League, and although it was soon disarmed by the Emperor's troops, and was to be brought by force to return to the old foith, it soon got in touch again with the Swedes. Gustavus Adolphus on his victorious





march from Breitenfeld, had occupied Erfurt, Schweinfurt, and also Würzburg. When Gustavus Adolphus had arrived at withhold Würzburg, there came messengers from Rothenburg, praying him not to withhold his assistance from this town. The king, full of sympathy, promised his help, and ore dered a small garrison to Rothenburg.

But Tilly, who after his junction with Aldringer was once more in command of 30 000 men, besieged the town, which defended itself heroically, at the end of October 1631, and succeeded in taking it. Horrible scenes followed the capitulation, and only the famous mighty draught of Burgomaster Nusch saved the councillors from certain death. (The deed of Burgomaster Nusch has provided Mr. Hör=ber with the subject for the festival drama, Der Meistertrunk, or Tilly at Rothenburg", which is played every Whitmonday. Further particulars see at the end.)

In the following year, Rothenburg saw the Swedish king twice within its walls. In 1634 the attack of Joh. Werth was repelled, but Octavio Piccolomini captured the town, and so did Marshal Turenne in 1645. The plague, famine, and war=contributions devastated the distrikt.

In the Palatine War of Succession, the spirit of the brave inhabitants stirs again, for the storm of the French general Feuquieres in 1688 was un successful.

It requires no explanation that these dreadful times not did raise civic life; the energy and the confidence of the citizens sank deeper aud deeper, so that a little band of Kleift's corps easily succeeded in exacting from the thown the sum of 10000 florins, at the end of the Seven Years, War.

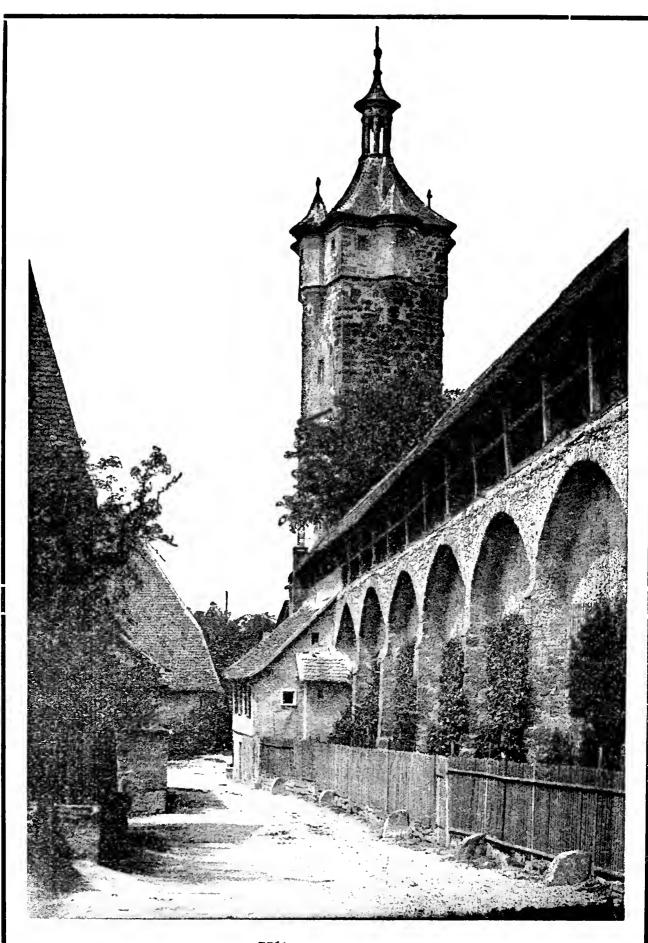
The French Revolution, as well as the wars, of 1792—1801, did not leave Rothenburg untouched. One burden after another was laid upon it, so that at last there was a public debt of 700000 florins.

In 1800, Seventeen French chasseurs penetrated into the town, but the mechanics and peasants had the courage to chase them out of the gates.

When the peace of Luneville was concluded, Rothenburg was annexed to Bavaria in September, 1802. Since that time business has become brisker, although this advantage had to be paid for heavily, for half of its territory fell to Württemberg; charitable foundations were seized; many an edifice simply pullee down, or sold as old materials; and so many a beautiful thing of our forefathers' days was destroyed without necessity.

A book on Rothenburg's History has lately been published by J. D. von Winterbach in a new edition (price 3 Marks,) in which those interested will find further information about the great past of the Free Imperial Town of Rothenburg.





Klingenturm



After leaving the railway=station, we proceed to the town. Truly, the first impression of it is not very favourable; you think you have come to a factory town, judging by the industrial works that meet your sight.

After about a hundred steps we behold to the left the churchyard with and old church, a little farther, close to the town=gate, that now lies before us, the new Amtsgericht (County Court).

Here, at last, at the

Roedertor

we are sure that we are on the right way, for here begins the medieval stamp of the old free town of the Empire.

The bastion in front of us (1615), together with the two little gate=houses to the right and left, the double moat (the left one is unfortunately filled up), and the mighty gate=tower, bear witness to the strength of the fortification. In the moat to the left there is a picturespue jutting of the wall.

We pall under the tower, and notice that the view is continually changing. As a relic of the former townwall we see here the interior Rödertor with the Markusturm, and, leaning against it, the former Büttelhaus. Now through the Hafengasse

to the Marktplatz. We turn round the corner, and behold before all the imposing

Rathaus

on rising ground. It consists of a newer Renaissance structure, and an older part in the Gothic style. The latter was begun in 1240, when the original building on the place opposite, behind the Herte= richbrunnen (now a local museum), had burned First there were two long Gothic edifices with gables to the south, the western (still ex= tant) with a high steeple. But the front part was not long to exist for on Sunday Oculi 1501 it was completely destroyed by fire, which also did great damage to the numerous records that were kept there. On January 20, 1572, the front part was pulled down, and the new still existing Renaissance building was begun. The builder was the Nuremberg City Architect Wolf Löscher of Plauen, and the costs of the whole amounted to 19, 197 fl.

The old Rathaus, with a tower 165 feet high, having stone figures atop, originally had a flat roof, a parapet, and a carved steeple=pyramid; after the fire, it was replaced by the Renaissance dome. It is worth while to ascend the tower.

The new Rathaus has oriels, portals, and a rustic portico, the latter not built before 1681. Remarkable are the spiral staircase and the south thief portal.

The Herterichbrunnen to the left of the Rathaus,

built in 1446, together with the Marienapotheke (chemist's shop) behind it, look very picturesque.

The Fleischhaus, formerly Tanzhaus, beside the Marienapotheke, contains a collection of Ro= thenburg antiquities. A visit will certainly pay.

Quite recently the ground floor of the former Brodhaus (bread=house), that was originally connected with the old Rathaus by a gangway across the street, was laid bare again, so that the former sale=rooms have become visible.

On the north side of the Marktplatz is a building with bell=turrets and clocks: since 1406 the drinking hall of the council (now the post=office). In 1474 the Danish King Christian was solemnly enfeoffed by Emperor Friedrich III before this house, and in 1525 Margrave Kasimir held a bloody assise here, at the close of the insurrection of the Ger=man peasantry.

In the year 1910 the clock was fitted out with a show=piece. Every day at noon, the windows at either side of the clock will open and exhibit the figures of Tilly and Altbürgermeister Nusch, who achieves the "Meistertrunk", while Tilly expresses his amazement by qestures.

The Interior of the Rathaus.

The entrance is in the middle of the portico. The inspection begins with the vestibule on the first floor. On the walls coats=of=arms of the bur=gomasters and consuls since 1230; in the corner to the left, a timber partition with carved work.

The custodian shows the

Large Court Room, the scene of the annual Whitsuntide festival, der Meistertrunk. (For deserption of this play see Appendix.)

On the walls of the hall opposite the door, are, among other things, some flags of the old imperial town. The wall opposite is covered with pictures from the Schleisheim gallery. The sculpture on the same wall, representing Doomsday, dates from the early Gothic time and is painted over.

On the south side of the room there are or= namented stone bars, surmounted by a stone bench for the judge and jury.

A stone staircase leads down into the yard, which has an interesting portal, unfortunately seriously damaged. Then we proceed to the archives; underneath are the torture-chambers and dungeons with some instruments of torture. Here Heinrich Toppler, the greatest burgomaster that Rothenburg ever had, is said to have died of poison in 1408. The upper story of the Rathaus likewise contains a vestibule and a hall with interesting pictures of the festival play.

From the Rathaus, our way lies between the "Lamm" (inn) and the Löwenapotheke (chemist's shop) across the Kapellenplatz.

At the upper corner of the place, to the left of the fountain, we behold a timber=framed buil=ding, that has but lately been restored with great skill. In the interior there is an old German wine=room, remarkable for its furnishings.

Close to it is the

Triving Autor Services

Weisse Turm (White Tower),

a gate of the former fortification with annexed timberframed building and oriel, the former "Juden=tanzhaus" (Jewish dancing=house).

From here, through the Georgengasse back to the Kirchplatz, the former church=yard.

The Gymnasium (grammar=school), built 1589 -91, with staircase=turret and three portals.

To the left is the **Stadtkirchnerswohnung** with a picturesque stone staircase.

In the coffee garden close to it stood formerly St. Michael's Chapel, which was sold as old mate=rials, when the town was annexed to Bavaria, in spite of the protest of the municipality.

The sacristan leads us into the

St. Jakobskirche (Curch of St. James),

built in 1373, a Gothic building with three naves. The east choir, with fine glass paintings and splen=did high altar, was presented by Burgomaster Toppler. To the left the tabernacle (ciborium), of 1448. In the south aisle the Altar of the Holy Blood, made, in 1478, by Tillmann Riemenschneider.

In the first niche of the south aisle is the Topplerkapelle (Chapel) with epitaphium. Coat of arms: two dice.

In the first main=aisle some fine statues.

In the nord aisle the Altar of the Virgin; this altar, too, is said to be the work of Tillmann Riemenschneider.

Beneath the west choir of the church, the street passes to the Chapel of the Holy Blood with statues and oil=paintings of various old masters. Close to it the parsonage, with a fine stone oriel.

Guided by the sacristan, we now return through the Kirchgasse and Herrenstrasse to the

Franziskanerkirche (Franciscan Church) an early Gothic building, with three naves, of 1281. The east choir is separated from the naves by a screen.

The church contains a great number of tombs. for instance, those of the Kreglings, Beulndorfs, Berlichingens, Brettheims, Hornburgs, and that of the Swedisch officer Perkhöffer, whose disinterred buff=coat was already shown in the Chapel of the Holy Blood.

The altar in the East choir is noticeable; the altar cloth is good work. On the walls fine epitaphs.

Opposite the Franziskanerkirche is the patrician Staudt'sche Haus with fine court and splendid window= gratings towards the street.

To the right of the Burgtor, in the Trompeter-gasse, we come in about one minute to the former house of the Bettelvogt where a highly interesting collection instruments of torture and things appertaining to the former criminal jurisdiction, as well as a rich collection of antiquities are kept. (Admission 25 Pf.) From here one enjoys a charming view of the valley of the Tauber.

We then retrace our steps to the

Burgtor,

with two little gate houses. The park here stands on the historical ground of the former Castle of the Hohenstaufen, destroyed in 1356 and 1425. About fifty steps from the Burgtor we find the Topplerstein, a monument to the great burgo= master Heinrich Toppler, erected by the town in 1908 to her meritorious son, in memory of the five hundredth anniversary of his death.

From the wall, just beyond the monument, is a fine view of the valley. The little towerlike building near the mill, at the foot of the hill, is the so-called

Kaiserstuhl

built by Heinrich Toppler in 1389. Also the nort=hern side of the castle garden commands a fine view.

The way leads past the Kriegerdenkmal (War=rior's Monument) to the west of the castle, where the hoary Pharamund Tower still existed about a hundred years ago.

Along the south side there is an areade, which affords a splendid view of the town-wall.

In the foreground we see the

Hohe Haus der Herzöge (High House of the Dukes)

which most likely belonged formerly to the Vorder=burg, with fine Romanesque window=cases. The interior is completely destroyed. Recently attempts have been made to restore it. The building is to serve as a lapidarian museum.

The sally=gate of the castle=garden close to it leads to pathway below the town wall,

To the left of this building is a small refuge, commanding a fine view of the town, the double bridge over the Tauber, built in 1330, and the Kobolzellerkirche, built in 1472, to the left of it.

The hill to the left behind the double bridge is called the **Essigkrug**, probably the site of an ancient castle.

Burgtor, and to take the path outside the gate to the left, passing along the town=wall. Out of a window of the first house to the right, there once escaped Dr. Carlstadt, the iconoclast, at the close of the Peasants' insurrection. To the left of the benchs at the iron railing is a charming view of the valley and the little village of **Dettwang**.

Skirting the Bettelvogtsturm, the former Do= minician nunnery, the Klosterturm, and the Straf= turm the way ascends to the Klingenbastei (bastion)

The outer gate is connected with the

St. Wolfgangskirche,

a late=gothic building of the years 1473-1483.

In the interior there are the altar of St. Wolf=gang; in the niche to the right, the altar of St. Wendelin; to the left the altar of the Virgin.

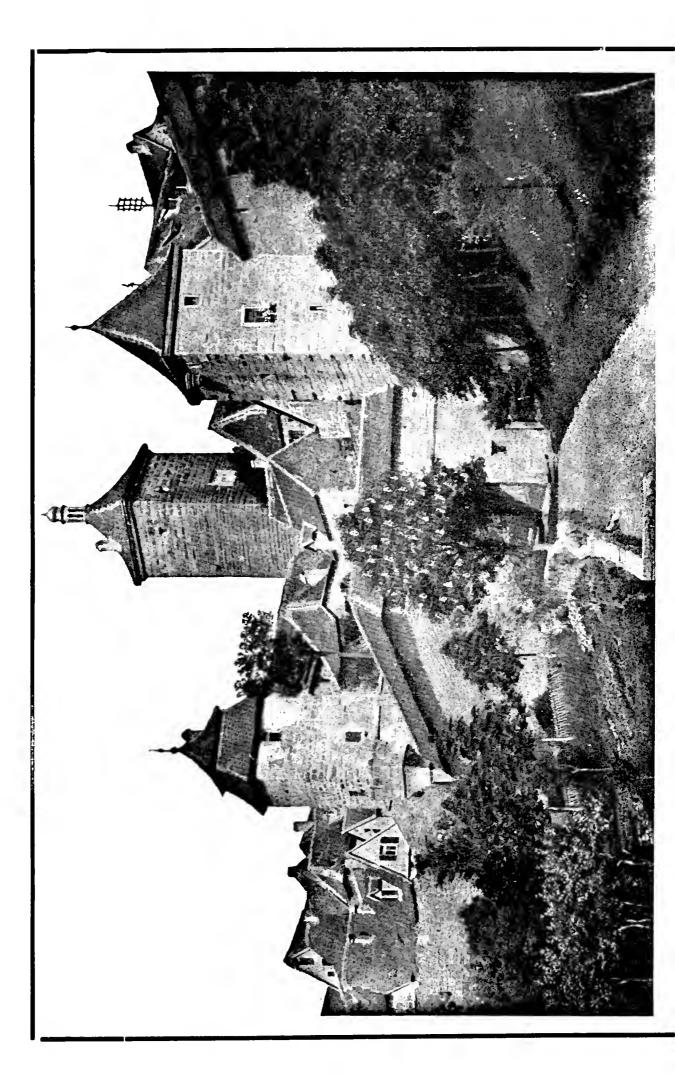
At the winding staircase leading to the gallery is an excellent iron railing. St. Wolfgang's church is connected by the town-wall with the

Klingentor

We pass under it, and come to the

Strafturm (Dungeon),

at te town=wall, only a few steps away; thence back to the Klingengasse, where we can have a look at the Klingenturm, embellished with four oriels and bell lantern.





We follow the street, and pass on the right a building with a fine wooden oriel, on the left the former **Deutschherrenho**f come.

Through the little lane by the oriel to the left, we reach the former Dominican nunnery (now the Rent=Collector's office), built in 1258. The church in the garden was pulled down in 1813. Only the old cross=vault and some interesting in=terior rooms are still preserved.

The visitor now returns to the Marktplatz by the Spiessgasse, past the house with the coat of arms, the Klingengasse, the passage under the Jakobskirche, Kirchgasse, and Herrengasse.

In order to visit the south part of the town with the hospital we proceed from the Marktplatz down the Schmiedgasse, past the

Baumeisterhaus (the Architect's House)
(with an interesting court=) and Toppler's Wohnhaus
to the

St. Johanniskirdie (Church of St. John), built in 1403, with some old stone sculptures on the north wall.

Supported by the church is the former Jo= hanniterhof, built in its present shape in 1718, now serving as a government office.

Opposite the Johanniskirche is the residence of the Altbürgermeister Nusch famous for his powerful draught, which saved the town.

Through the Schmiedgasse past the fountain at the church and the Hirsch Hotel, we reach the

* * * Kobolzellertor * * *

a very picturesque sight. On the left stands the Siebersturm; on the right, the way slopes down the Kobolzeller Steig. At the corner a stone fountain.

The visitor should now pass under the **Kobol**zellertor, that is to say, downwards, follow the pleasure grounds on the left, and thus reach the

Stöberleinsturm

and the edifices of the **Wildbad**, recently erected in a magnificent style by the well=known orthopae= dist, Mr. Hessing.

The institute also contains excellent accomo= dations for visitors from the town, and its restau= rand and gardens deserve every recommendation.

Visitors not wishing to see the **Wildbad** pass along the town=wall to the

Spita1bastei

built in 1572, as a stronghold with gate=house and Threatening gate=tower.

After having passed under the first arch, we are surrounded by a second wall. The whole work gives an idea of a good old city fortification.

After we have passed under the tower, the way leads us to the

Hospital,

built in 1575, with fine portals, one in the street, and the other in the court near the church. Fine portals also in the interior.

In the hospital=yard the picturesque

Hegereiterhaus

with staircase=turret, once the lodgings of the "be=

reiter" (horseman), an officer of the hospital, whose office it was to superintend its estates.

On the left above the hospital=yard one sees the **Stöberleinsturm** with four oriels.

By hospital=yard to the

Hospital-Church,

an early=gothic edifice of 1308, with a very bald facade. In the interior some old tombstones and epitaphs.

Rossmühle (Horse Mill),

on the so-ealled Mühlacker (mill field). Under the boughs of a powerful lime=tree rises the sturdy edifice, particularly marked by its counterforts. It was built in 1516, for providing the town with flour in times of war, when the mills in the valley were not accessible. It was worked by horses. It now contains a hall for gymnastics.

To the left of the Rossmühle is the Kalkturm, from one of whose demolished oriels, one enjoys a splendid view of the town.

Now we pass the lime=tree behind the Ross-mühle, and proceed alongside the town=wall to the Siebersturm and the above=mentioned Kobolzeller=tor, where a tree grows out of the wall.

The wicket before us leads us back to the Spitalstrasse, or to the Schmiedgasse.

From here it is easy to find to one's way back to one's hotel or to the station.

The preceding pages have acquainted the visitor with the principal sights of the town. Yet he will find many an interesting ocject which this

Guide does not mention; for there is no lack of curiosities at Rothenburg, such as portals, coats of arms, gables, etc. whichs a watchful eye will not fail to detect. We will only call the attention of visitors to the signs of inns and artisan's shops, which are, coming again into fashion.



Engelsburg, fine forest=paths, marked by coloured fingerposts — Leuzenbronner Höhe — back past the Felsenkeller (rock=cellar), an hour and a half in the afternoon, much to be recommended. From the Engelsburg splendid view of the town.

Vorbach, romantic valley of the Vorbach, back viâ the Engelsburg, about 2 hours.

Dettwang, with romantic church and earved altar, back through the Tauber valley, past the Kaiserstuhl, about 1 hour.

Creglingen through the Tauber or Münster valley to the Herrgottskirche with splendid altar by Riemenschneider. Carriage from Rothen=burg about half a day.

Wildbad Burgbernheim.



From the Rödertor to the Spitaltor:

Hohennersturm, Schwefelturm, Faulturm, Ruckesserturm, kleiner (little) Stern, grosser (big) Stern, Spitaltorturm.

Spitaltor to the Kobolzellertor:

Wildbadturm, Stöberleinsturm, Kalkturm, Fischturm; Kahlturm, Kobolzellerturm.

Kobolzellertor to the Burgthor:

Weisser Turm, Johanniterhofturm, Käskam= mer, Corner Tower of the old Castle, Burg= turm.

Burgtor to the Klingentor:

Totengräbersturm (Sextons Tower, Bettel= vogtsturm), Klosterturm, Strafturm, Klingen= turm.

Klingenturm to the Galgentor:

Fürbringersturm, Henkersturm (Headsman's Tower), Pulverturm, Kummereckturm, Galegenturm.

Galgenturm to the Rödertor:

Thomasturm, Weibersturm, Röderturm.



Appendix.

The Historical Festival=play:

"Der Meistertrunk" (The Master-draught),

or

"Tilly at Rothenburg"

The festival=play, written by the honorary citizenz of Rothenburg, Mr. Adam Hörber, is foun= ded on the following event:

During the Thirty Years' War, bands of sol=diers also came to the neighbourbood of Rothen=burg. The population held steadfastly to the cause of the Swedes, who had sent from Würzburg as a garrison a detachment of about sixty horsemen, under the command of Rinkenberg.

The town of Rothenburg itself had 700 well= armed warriors. The van of Tilly's army, which approached from Aschaffenburg, was erroneously believed to be only a small pillaging bund, but all efficient citizens hastened to the fortifications, in defence.

On the second day, the assailants made a breach in the wall at the Henkersturm, and elimbed up, thinking they had whon the day, when the defenders, aided by women and children, who were fetching stones, succeeded in repelling the enemy.

- About six hundred men lay dead or wounded

in the moats Abaut noon, however, Tilly himself arrived with his main force of 30,000 men, and proceeded at once to attack the town from all sides. A part had already entered it, at the Johanniter=hof, but the citizens succeeded a second time in driving them back. The council, in the town hall assembled, inflamed the defenders to the utmost resistance. At the Klingentor the stock of powder which they had there was blown into the air, and the cries of the wounded made the others believe that the town was lost. First singly, then in groups, the beleaguered left their posts, after having fought at the walls for thirty hours.

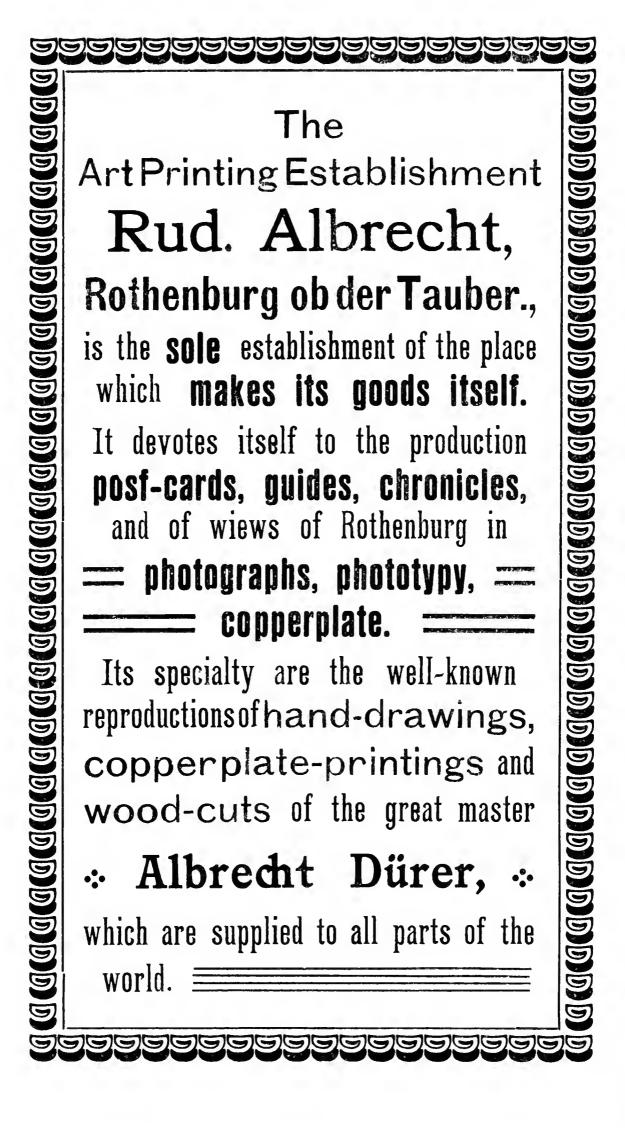
Many were killed, most men were wounded, and fresh forces were not at hand. The Swedish officer eapitulated, and he was granted an orderly retreat. But the citizens were at the merey of the enemy. Tilly and his suite, among whom was Count Pappenheim, made their entrance. The council of war demanded the destruction of the town, and the soldiers dispersed in the streets and houses to plunder. The women and children implored Tilly's mercy. The councillors, however, were sen= tenced to death. Burgomaster Bezold himself was ordered to fetch the executioner But this faithful servant refused to perform the duties of his office, and offered his own head. The delay caused hereby was used by the Kellermeister (butler), or his daughter, to offer Fieldmarshall Tilly a cup of welcome, for which purpose the old imperial goblet was filled with the best wine.

Tilly was prevailed upon to drink and his ge= nerals, too, relished the drink after the hot day. The enemy,s humour got better, and Tilly at last promised his pardon, provided one of the aldermen should be able to empty the bumper at one draught.

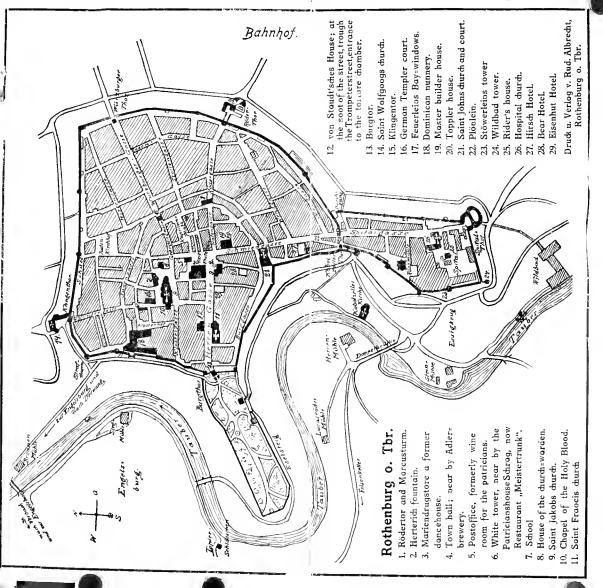
Burgomaster Nusch took up the challenge and succeeded in emptying the bowl. The messenger of the town council hastened to meet the Burgo= master, and the lane, where he met him, is cal= led to this day "Freudengässlein" (lane of joys).

The town itself had to pay a heavy contribution. The goblet was preserved in the family, and is now in the local museum.









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